(a) to (c) There is no proposal with the Government at this stage for starting a five year integrated programme either in IIT or any other engineering colleges with specific emphasis on aircraft mantenance enginering. No specific request or demand for such a course has so far been received.

Privatisation of Airlines

970. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govrenent's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 15th December, 1986 under the caption Tata group recommends airlines privatisation; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. This suggestion was made by the group as one of the measures to meet the resource requirement of Civil Aviation Sector.

(b) The recommendation of the group is being considered by the Steering Committee constituted by the Planning Commission with a view to preparing a long term plan for the development of transport.

Air India Airbus accident at Trivandrum airport

971. SHRI SURESH KAMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Air India Airbus from Abu-Dhabi had a providential escape when the tyre of the aircraft burst and went up in flames after touch down at Trivandrum airport on 21st December, 1986;

(b) whether any passengers were injured; and

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Air India Airbus aircraft VT-EHQ operating scheduled flight AI-930 (Dubai-Trivandrum) made a safe landing at Trivandrum airport on 21-12-86. After landing fire was observed on No. 4 wheel brake assembly which was extinguished by airport safety services.

(b) During evacuation 25 passengers received minor injuries and were treated by the airport doctor and discharged after first-aid. No passenger was removed to hospital for treatment.

(c) Remedial measures will be taken to avoid such incidents in future after the investigation report into the incident becomes available.

972. [*Transferred to the 12 March, 1987*].

Digital Exchange Equipment from Mankapur factory

973. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of the supply of Digital exchange equipment from Mankapur factory and how many exchanges are to be commissioned in 1986-87 and 1987-88 against the target set by the Department;

(b) what are the remedial measures taken by the Department to bridge the shortfall to keep up with the growing demands; and

(c) whether Government propose to import this equipment to augment the supply and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a)